

REMARKS

Based upon the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Applicant and his attorney wish to express their gratitude to Examiner Lopez for the courtesy and assistance he extended during the recent personal interview. As stated on the Examiner Interview Summary Record, Applicant agreed to amend claims 1 and 25 to include limitations from U.S. Patent No. 6,305,382, which is the parent application to the present case.

Due to the manner in which claim 1 is now amended, Applicants will also submit a terminal disclaimer in the near future with respect to the '382 patent.

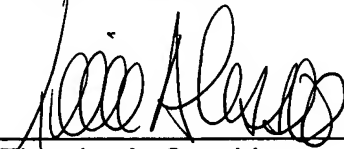
In view of the above amendments, Applicant believes that the currently pending claims are in complete condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is therefore respectfully requested. Should any issues remain after consideration of this response, however, then Examiner Lopez is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned at his convenience.

Please charge any additional fees required by this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 04-1403.

3/15/04

Date

Respectfully submitted,



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